



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WALTER REED ARMY INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20307-5100

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
WALTER REED ARMY INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH
AND
NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER

SUBJECT: Animal Care and Use Program: Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Responsibilities, Veterinary Care And Animal Husbandry Support Services

1. Purpose, objectives and goals.

a. Purpose. To define/delineate the general terms, conditions, policies, and procedures whereby Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) will be responsible for the management of the WRAIR/Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC) Animal Care and Use Program (ACUP), to include veterinary care, animal husbandry, and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) support services.

b. Objectives and Goals.

(1) Provide for the humane care and use of all laboratory animals maintained at WRAIR/NMRC IAW applicable public law, DOD Directive 3016.1, AR 70-18 and SECNAVINST 3900.38 B, and Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) standards.

(2) Foster continued cooperative and collaborative efforts in military biomedical research programs conducted at WRAIR/NMRC.

(3) Provide efficient and cost effective veterinary care, animal husbandry and IACUC support services at WRAIR/NMRC through the ACUP.

2. Background, program scope and technical approach.

a. Background.

(1) The WRAIR and NMRC biomedical research programs have been collocated in Buildings 503 and 511, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Forest Glen Annex to take advantage of and maximize the inherent synergy, efficiency, and cost effectiveness that can be realized.

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(2) As part of this collocation, WRAIR will be responsible for the management of facility/infrastructure support to the NMRC to include the ACUP (i.e., veterinary services, animal facilities, animal husbandry support personnel, and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee).

b. Program Scope. To provide ACUP oversight and support services for all laboratory animals housed at WRAIR/NMRC through the ACUP. Core costs and direct costs, which may occur from such support, will be charged IAW the current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) defining the support relationship between WRAIR and NMRC enumerating estimated reimbursements for such support, and/or any subsequent document.

c. Technical Approach. Veterinary clinical care, animal husbandry support, and all ACUP services for collocated laboratory animals will be provided by WRAIR/NMRC personnel IAW public law (i.e., the Animal Welfare Act as amended and its implementing regulations contained in 9 CFR); DOD Directive, Army and Navy regulations/operating procedures; Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) standards; the National Research Council (NRC) Guide to the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals; and American Veterinary Association (AVMA) standards.

2. Responsibilities.

a. Responsibilities of the WRAIR Commander.

(1) The WRAIR Commander will serve as the ACUP Institutional Official (IO) and as such is responsible for appointing an IACUC, IAW 9 CFR 2.31, to oversee all animal care and use facilities, programs, and procedures at WRAIR/NMRC.

(2) The WRAIR Commander will ensure that all WRAIR personnel adhere to the ACUP policies, practices and actions.

(3) The WRAIR Commander will appoint the IACUC, with NMRC members being nominated by the NMRC Commanding Officer.

(4) The IO will attempt to resolve all ACUP issues of concern presented by the NMRC Commanding Officer.

(5) The IO will coordinate any action involving disapproval or suspension of an IACUC-approved protocol with the appropriate chain of command.

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b. Responsibilities of the NMRC Commander.

(1) The NMRC Commanding Officer will adopt all ACUP policies, practices and actions and ensure adherence by all NMRC personnel, provided they are not in direct conflict with existing or revised Army, Navy, or DOD policies with respect to animal research. All future ACUP policies will be staffed through both Commands.

(2) The NMRC Commanding Officer will ensure NMRC representation on the IACUC by nominating NMRC personnel for appointment to the IACUC.

(3) The NMRC Commanding Officer will provide all protocol-specific support/resources required to carry out/execute approved NMRC research.

c. Responsibilities of the WRAIR/NMRC IACUC.

(1) Under the authority of the IO, the IACUC can approve, disapprove, suspend, or terminate a protocol.

(2) The IACUC will oversee the WRAIR/NMRC ACUP to include policy development and implementation, personnel qualifications, and regulatory oversight and compliance.

(3) The IACUC will serve as consultants to the Commanders, or their representatives, determining and/or conducting appropriate review of Army/Navy extramural animal research protocols.

(4) The IACUC will review the ACUP as needed and will include and/or accommodate requirements unique to WRAIR and NMRC.

(5) Scientific representation on the IACUC will include one member and at least one alternate from each division of WRAIR and each directorate of NMRC conducting animal research.

d. Responsibilities of the WRAIR Division of Veterinary Medicine (DVM).

(1) The DVM will execute the ACUP, which includes overseeing and implementing all veterinary services, animal husbandry, and administrative support services (e.g., SOP development and implementation, personnel training, animal medicine, husbandry, surgery, radiology, clerical support, etc.) for the ACUP and all laboratory animals used/housed/maintained at WRAIR/NMRC.

(2) The Director, DVM will function as the attending veterinarian.

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4. Memorandum of agreement administration.

a. Reports. All NMRC animal use shall be incorporated, when appropriate, into WRAIR animal use reports submitted to DOD, USDA, OLAW/NIH, AAALAC, and/or Congress with information copies provided to the respective Commanders. Copies of IACUC minutes, FIPRs, and other documents (as appropriate) will be provided to the Commanders.

b. Protocol Submission. Animal use protocols shall be forwarded to the IACUC IAW existing policies. Protocol approval by the WRAIR/NMRC IACUC shall be issued to NMRC investigators through the NMRC Commanding Officer for coordination and funding. The office appropriate to the agency supporting the research will perform secondary review of companion animal/primate protocols.

c. Correspondence. All requests for animal purchases, assignment, transfer, deliveries, euthanasia, support assistance, or other support should be forwarded to the WRAIR DVM as applicable using format and processes outlined in IACUC Policy Letters and the WRAIR/NMRC Investigator's Handbook.

d. Information Releases. Technical reports, publication, presentation, and/or other release of information involving the Army's and/or Navy's use of laboratory animals at WRAIR/NMRC shall be coordinated/reviewed by proper service channels prior to release.

e. Security Classification. Information pertaining to the veterinary care and/or animal husbandry of Army or Navy laboratory animals used/housed/maintained at WRAIR/NMRC is unclassified, but sensitive.

f. Reimbursement Policy. During the fiscal year, NMRC shall reimburse the DVM for animal purchase and per diem on a quarterly basis. DVM will bill Research Services for payment. Any other infrastructure costs will be covered IAW the current MOA defining the support relationship between WRAIR and NMRC enumerating estimated reimbursements, and/or any subsequent document.

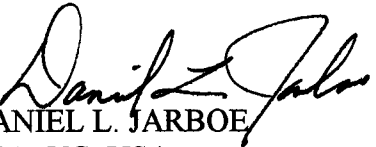
5. Authority.


a. This MOA shall be effective and binding from the date of last signature until cancelled in writing by either of the participating organizations.

b. Issues that may arise after the MOA is in effect will be resolved either by coming to informal agreement or by amending this MOA.

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c. This MOA shall be reviewed as necessary, as determined by either of the Commanders and/or their designees, and modified appropriately.


DANIEL L. JARBOE
COL, VC, USA
Director
Walter Reed Army Institute of Research


RICHARD B. OBERST
CAPT, MSC, USN
Commanding Officer
Naval Medical Research Center

DATE: 28 AUG 2001

DATE: 8/28/01